



Golden Dedication! On July 4, 2004 two golden eagles, shields, and spears from the original Naval Asylum in Philadelphia have been put on permanent display at the main entrance of the Gulfport facility.

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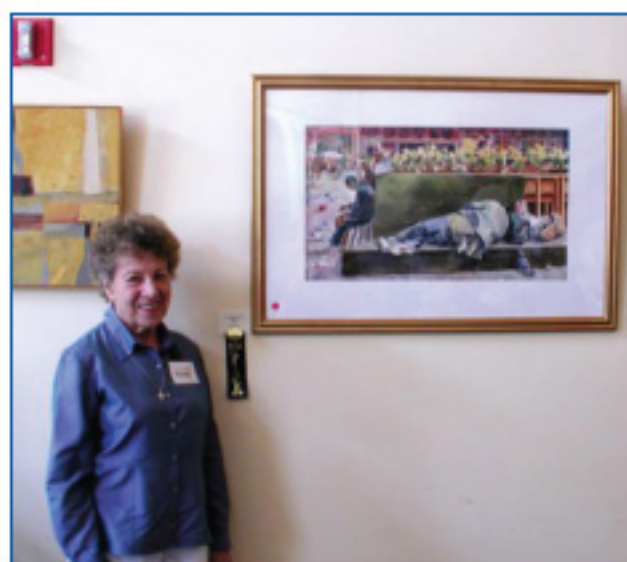
Then & Now
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AFRH-W Artists Excel at Virginia Art Show

By Laura R. Fogarty (W)

AFRH-W artists, Kenard C. Collier, Mike Martinez and Mimi Rivkin made an impressive showing at the 18th Young at Art Juried Art Show held July 18-29 in Alexandria, Virginia. On the basis of their submissions for viewing consideration, they were all given the honor to display selected offerings.

Mimi's water color, "Union Square, Manhattan," received the top award, besting 65 other exhibits displayed throughout Alexandria's Campagna Center during the July 18 open house reception. Mike's acrylic, "Lunch at Trios," and Ken's mixed media offering, "Scrap Mettle," rounded out the impressive AFRH-W representation.



Canvas Magic! Mimi Rivkin shows off her winning watercolor painting "Union Square Manhattan."

Open house reception participants were treated to wine, cheese crackers and mixed chocolates, while Mimi proudly sported her well-deserved First Place ribbon.

bon. She was accompanied at the gathering by fellow AFRH-W artists, Lee Corkill, Ed Woessner and "Casey" Collier.

This annual community event is sponsored by the Alexandria Commission of Aging, Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center, Retired Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP) and the corporate partner, Goodwin House Foundation.

Understandably, we're impressed and quite proud of all of our AFRH artists who make use of their campus studios to delight and benefit others as well as themselves.

Congratulations, Mimi ... for being the 2004 "Young at Art" show winner!

AFRH COMMUNICATOR

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The AFRH Communicator is an authorized publication of the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

Residents and employees are encouraged to submit photos, art, news items, and features. Materials will be edited by The AFRH Communicator staff for journalistic style and length.

Editorial views and opinions expressed in these pages are not necessarily those of AFRH or the leadership of each Home.

Throughout the newspaper AFRH-G input will be denoted as (G) and AFRH-W as (W).

AFRH Editors Column



Reasonable Expectations by AFRH Residents

Many years ago I participated in a Troop Information Session in which the principle speaker, an Infantry Major General, made the following statement:

"Respect cannot be demanded. The uniform and its insignia merely give its wearer the visual trappings of the rank or position officially bestowed upon him. However, it is solely up to

that individual to earn the respect of those he leads and/or serves."

Recently, in light of many circulated comments concerning the "pros and cons" of the current AFRH operation, I have had cause to revisit the general's message. Can we residents logically apply that message to our relationship with the Home's management structure? The comments indicate that we have, regardless of the justification or lack thereof.

Understandably, our prevailing mindset is based on our military training and background. Having had various degrees of command authority, we tend to think of ourselves as still being active players in that chain of command and superior-subordinate world in which we were weaned. If you believe we remain active players, I have some Enron shares I'm willing to let go of real cheap.

We residents are the end recipients of changes made in the interest of efficiency by the in-house DOD-based management team. We no longer salute (unless we want to), we don't take orders, and we certainly don't give orders. Nevertheless, we still have the capacity to realize that understanding is the key toward making the system work smoothly for everyone's benefit.

The bottom line, therefore, is that respect is a vital ingredient regardless of the mission and one's place in the related wiring diagram. Having said that, it is equally important to point out that AFRH residents – who are obligated to abide by AFRH authored rules and regulations – certainly deserve to be made aware of their specific entitlements as well as how those entitlements prioritize with management's overall mission.

Full appreciation for management's existing mission, whatever that mission is, does not alter the concern that blind obedience might result in substantive compromise to resident benefits which took years to achieve. AFRH residents may no longer be active players in the decision making process, but they certainly deserve to know what their rights truly are. They also deserve to be spared certain spoon-fed, good news rhetoric which has little or no factual basis.

Our King Health Center has a Patient's Bill of Rights. How about a Resident's Bill of Rights? Such a document might be a positive step toward reinforcing mutual respect.

Enjoy your paper!

Personnel Excellence Awards

AFRH-Gulfport

Campus Operations

Jyran Jordan

AFRH-Washington

Resident Services

Jerry Carter

Laura Fogarty

Healthcare Services

Frank Leonard

Christina Keke

Adrian Dawkins

Dalish Irish

AFRH NEWS

Message from the Chief Operating Officer



So, what have you done so far this Summer? Have you taken a home-sponsored trip? Have you played BINGO or maybe pitched some horseshoes?

What about enjoying one of the movies shown in the auditorium?

The list of activities and recreational events offered by the AFRH is endless and they are provided for your personal enjoyment. Each facility offers a wide variety of reading materials as well as loaner videos and DVDs. A diverse offering of live musical and entertainment groups visit the theatres of our two facilities on a weekly and sometimes daily basis. In Gulfport residents can sit by the pool or take a cool refreshing plunge. In Washington residents can play a round of golf with the U.S. Capitol Building dotting the horizon. We offer the use of computer labs, sports equipment, gardening plots, bowling lanes, ceramic and art studios, and both homes offer well equipped gyms. These, and many more, recreational offerings are available to each resident. All you have to do is to make the decision to USE them.

While sitting in the gazebo in Gulfport or at the front entrance of the Scott Building in Washington is enjoyable, I challenge each resident who is physically able, to do something good for themselves this Summer. Maybe a short evening stroll after dinner or maybe utilizing the exercise bikes in the gym for 10 minutes. Select one or two events each week and try them out. Who knows, maybe you're a Babe Ruth waiting to be discovered, or you will bowl a perfect game the first time you visit the lanes. Enjoy your Summer, keep cool and drink plenty of fluids.

Timothy C. Cox



Recently Tim Cox met with Rear Admiral Michael Loose, Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

AFRH-W Artist Talent Showcased!



Left: Kenard Collier, Mimi Rivkin and Mike Martinez made the most of their participation in the "Young at Art Show."

Submitted by Linda Dienno (Campagna Center)

Mimi Rivkin received first prize for her extraordinary watercolor entitled "Union Square Manhattan" at the 18th annual Young At Art, a juried art exhibition for metro artists aged 55+. Jointly sponsored by the Alexandria Commission on Aging, The Campagna Center's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and the Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center in corporate partnership with Goodwin House Foundation and with funding also provided by the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, Young At Art is a popular showcase for talented metro artists. The exhibition is on display at The Campagna Center in Alexandria, Virginia Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. through July 30th.

Ken Collier and Mike Martinez also had pieces of art accepted for the show. In all, 76 artists submitted 241 pieces of work for consideration by juror, Carol Lukitsch. Ms. Lukitsch chose 66 works from 48 artists for the exhibition. Her selections featured a wide variety of medium including oils, watercolors, pastels, wooden sculptures and pottery.

Ms. Lukitsch was impressed by the quality and high level of the works submitted. Stating what she looked for as she judged, Ms. Lukitsch said, "Artists who are 'Young At Art' are equipped with the life experiences and knowledge to make us think, see in a new light and feel the essence of the artwork. In making the selections for this year's exhibit, I looked for artwork which were not only visually successful, but which also evoked feeling in the viewer."

Leslie Herzog, Director of RSVP and an eight-year veteran of Young At Art has been involved with every aspect of the previous art shows including the intake of all the entries submitted by senior artists. She has witnessed leaps of talent and creativity over the years and says that the work chosen for Young At Art 2004 made the show the best yet. Ms. Herzog encourages all senior artists to contact RSVP at 703-549-1607 for information on entering Young At Art 2005.

CAMPUS NEWS

Office of the Director



The staff, partners and supporters of the Armed Forces Retirement Homes in Gulfport and District of Columbia continue their commitment to service excellence.

Since September 2002, we have become the pacesetter in senior residential services. Here are some of the excerpts from other senior service providers. That we are a place with extreme beneficial attention to total spectrum of elder needs. The AFRH benefit package offers a vast range of indoor/outdoor residential programs, arts and a cabaret of interactive activities suited for the young at heart in the most neighborly of appointed settings. Competitive admiration for our resourcefulness, pride and compassionate well care approach is lauded as tops and one of many traits they wish to emulate. They find it truly remarkable that the loved ones of our residents have the utmost confidence and trust in our ability to obtain the best outcomes in our

care giving. They recognize that AFRH is unmatched in quality of transportation, taste and graciousness in dining and the availability of spiritual encouragement. Our numerous special events including cookouts, camping, personalized services, estate planning assistance as well as estate savings feature, "no cost" provisions such as laundry facilities, on site facilities, advocacy programs that extend to hospital visits and consumer assistance "trumps" the affluent. Another of our leading traits is our persistence to communicate with our patrons. It is also noted that the dialogue is constant and help answers are consistent. Our staff responds to inquiries at a higher rate than those in other continuing care retirement communities. I often end most of my conversations with other leaders, managers and professionals by humbly stating: We actively seek to daily serve the most important people in the world in a fashion unequalled anywhere anytime.

CAPT Jerald Ulmer

Give Yourself a Helping Hand

By Dave Davison (W)

AFRH residents have at their disposal a no-fee facility that dispenses excellent amenities and services without the "downtown" prices. I'm referring to our we-never-close Fitness Center located on the ground floor of the Sheridan Building, as well as the dedicated and professional staff assigned to help you design a personal training program.

The beauty of it all is that the only requirement is for you to show up. Residents and employees now enjoying the center's benefits will be happy to advise you about the impressive assortment of available workout equipment and related exercises – from simple stretching to pumping iron.

Make a commitment to feel and BE better. Set a date to go to the center, and resolve to make it happen. Your path to becoming a better person can begin with your first step toward the AFRH Fitness Center. Take it!

Army Birthday Celebration at Gulfport



Left: "Horn section lifts the roof as well as the residents. The 41st Army Band performs at AFRH-G. Right: Capt. Ulmer introduces the 41st Army Band from the Mississippi National Guard.



Office of the Deputy Director – Washington



Signs of Improvement: As we work to improve things here at Armed Forces Retirement Home – Washington, it's good to highlight interim goals that bolster us on our Journey of Excellence. One such goal is the completion of a one million dollar chiller replacement project. As many of you know, the Scott and Sheridan buildings have several locations that get warm, this has been occurring for years and is not a recent event. The primary cause has been the aging and failing condition of our chiller plant. Chillers are large pieces of machinery that cool water down to very low temperatures, 40 or 45 degrees. This cold water gets pumped via pipes throughout Scott and Sheridan to pull heat off of air that gets circulated into each Residents Room. The better the chillers work, the cooler the water gets, the cooler the air gets which is used to air condition your rooms. We had four (4) old chillers, three handled Resident quarters areas and one handle Scott Mess Hall. To date, we have brought one new chiller online which is 20% more powerful than the unit it replaced but still cheaper to operate. The second new chiller will come online before the end of July, and the final chiller will come online before the end of August 04. We also hooked up

a temporary chiller unit in May to provide emergency relief should one of the old chillers suddenly fail, this temporary unit will be removed once the new units come online. Temperature issues are not exclusive to Scott and Sheridan. LaGarde has also had a long history of comfort issues related to thermostatic con-

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Admiral Loose meets Bill Seely during his tour of AFRH-W with Tim Cox and Capt (s) Soares.

Office of the Deputy Director – Gulfport



With his recent death, President Ronald Reagan left behind a legacy of not only being recognized as a great President, but he also left behind a legacy of a disease dubbed "The Long Goodbye" by his wife Nancy Reagan. As a caregiver who has witnessed the devastating effects of this disease, I now dedicate this poem (written by myself) to all the veterans suffering from the ravages of Alzheimers:

"THE LONG, LONG GOODBYE"

He was a GI... Government Issue
Twenty-four/seven no matter the mission
He traveled the world

Fighting for freedom
Had a beautiful wife and two
wonderful children
Then he retired... he needed this rest
To enjoy his grandkids and his
little nest egg
So much to do, so little time
Can't wait to explore the seas and the skies
His children, they visited, taking him out
To eat or to fish... a sport he so loved
Then slowly but surely he began to forget
Not sure what it was
Just needed some tests
Another day to go fishing with them, but
He stood there alone asking himself
"Did I turn off the light
or even the spout?
Gotta go back" he shouted out loud
Impatient, they wait
Anxious to go

Yet knowing that something
Was not right with this show
Days turned to weeks
Weeks into months
Until finally dad could no longer pronounce
"I know I put it here somewhere.
Son do you remember my... my pair..."
"Dad are you OK, did you forget
Is it your glasses or your old fishing nets?"
"Don't know my son, just can't remember
Is it July or early December?"
You know the feeling, the sadness the grief
The loss of a loved one to this
deadly disease
Alzheimers, dementia...
they all make you cry
As you face your beloved
For this "long, long Goodbye!"

Lt.Col. Wendy VanDyke

HEALTH SERVICES

Health Services Make Changes to Better Serve Residents

By Linda Rader, RN, PhD

I want to share with you some highlights of the accomplishments made here since March of last year when I became the Administrator of Healthcare Services. One of the first steps we took was to move our administrative offices from the Forwood Building over to the LaGarde Building to make our services more accessible for the residents.

Other major steps have been taken to improve operations. Some examples include the following:

°We made changes in the way funeral services are handled. Previously, these services were managed by the Home. We changed these arrangements so that now the funeral home itself is directly responsible for these services. This provides better and more direct communication between family members and the funeral home.

°We closed the treatment room, in the Pipes Building, and made access to the physician much

more available to the resident. This enables the physician to go directly to the resident, in independent living, rather than the resident having to come to the treatment room.

°Transportation services to the various hospitals including medical appointments is now more integrated thus giving us more flexibility in the way we get you to your appointments.

°We developed a new Skilled/Hospice Unit, on LaGarde 4, in the King Health Center. This has enabled us to increase nursing hours, on that unit, giving the residents the increased levels of care they need after returning from the hospital.

°We re-engineered the medical supply operations and relocated them into the LaGarde building to permit better control of the inventory. Each unit now has the appropriate stock thus bringing supplies closer to the resident and staff.

°Resident Council meetings are required by the Joint Commission to be held at least quarterly. We have been able to make these meetings more pleasant, for the residents, by incorporating a social environment. These meetings have proven to be extremely valuable in identifying issues of concern to the residents and encouraging meaningful problem solving. This has been very successful.

°We have entered into a contract for pharmacy services with Neighborcare. This lets us provide the residents with medications in a more timely, efficient, and safe manner.



Home residents Ralph Johnson works with Physical Therapist Mohamed Manjaray and Ibrahima Diallo.

°We closed the pharmacy, in the Pipes Building, and moved those services to the Community Health area in the Scott Building. We did this for the convenience of the residents. Now, they can pick up their medication in Independent Living, rather than having to go all the way down to the Pipes Building every time they need to fill a prescription.

°We created a Restorative Nursing Program to meet the needs of the residents in maintaining as much of their independence as possible.

These are but a few of the many improvements that have been made during the past year for the benefit of the residents and their health care. We are looking forward to more advances in the months ahead as we work to provide the best services possible.



Paul Yudisky works hard to improve his walking skills with the help of Physical Therapist Ibrahima Diallo.

WELCOME HOME

AFRH Residency

AFRH is not just a place to live but a place to live more. Our model retirement centers are designed for residents to maintain an independent lifestyle in an environment designed for safety, comfort and personal enrichment.

Eligibility:

Military veterans from each service branch can live at either Home.

Veterans are eligible to become a resident of the AFRH if their active duty service in the military was at least 50 percent enlisted, warrant officer or limited duty officer and who are:

- Veterans with 20 or more years of active duty service and are at least 60 years old, or
- Veterans unable to earn a livelihood due to a service-connected disability, or
- Veterans unable to earn a livelihood due to non service-connected disability, and who served in a war theater or received hostile fire pay, or
- Female veterans who served prior to 1948.

To receive an informational brochure please contact the following offices:

In Gulfport, call 1-800-332-3527, or write to Admissions Office, AFRH-Gulfport, 1800 Beach Drive, Gulfport, MS 39507-1597.

In Washington, call 1-800-422-9988, or write to Admissions Office, AFRH-Washington, 3700 N. Capitol St. NW, Washington DC 20011-8400.

Visit us on the web at: www.AFRH.gov

NEW RESIDENTS AT AFRH-G

Gene Brunner **USA**

Charles Bruno **USN**

Doris Jones **USA**

Dee Jerkle **USA**

Gilbert Bakery **USA**

Carl Smedley **USN**

Richard Thornton **USN**

Thomas Nichols **USN**

Leonardo Tanglao **USN**

John Hart **USAF**

Arthur Capizzi **USAF**

CENUS: 577

AS OF JULY 27, 2004

NEW RESIDENTS AT AFRH-W

Marion Marques **USAF**

James McKeon **USAF**

Robert Buettner **USA**

Clavin Thomas **USAF**

Willy Wagner **USA**

Kenneth Tieman **USAF**

John McBeath **USN**

Bryon Stavrides **USAF**

Jerry Lugar **USAF**

Charles Hawkins **USA**

Alvin Boykin III **USA**

Paul Hessler **USAF**

George Linfield **USAF**

Eugene Pelle **USA**

Charles Gray **USAF**

Alfred Giunta **USN**

CENUS: 1012

AS OF JULY 27, 2004

HISTORY

LINCOLN AT SOLDIERS' HOME ACT V

By Ray Colvard (W)

While President Lincoln was at the Home in the summer of 1864 he was in deep depression: guilt, grief and probably remorse. In 2004 historian William Harris published a monumental study of Lincoln's last months, about the time he came to the Home until his death.

As described by Harris, "Located on a small hill about three miles from the White House, the Soldiers' Home, a group of buildings and surrounding grounds set aside for retired veterans and recuperating soldiers, became a frequent retreat for the president. When at the Home he usually rose early and rode into town to be at his office by eight o'clock.

"He found solace in walking the grounds. The wooded area contained a variety of trees, and Lincoln could be seen talking to women who visited the retired soldiers and the nearby graves. On one occasion two women disagreed regarding the type of evergreen in the yard, whereupon Lincoln announced he would enlighten them on the subject: I know all about trees in the light of being a backwoodsman. I'll show you the difference between spruce, pine and cedar. He then gathered specimens of each kind and described their distinguishing characteristics."

It will be obvious to Lincoln buffs that Mary Lincoln was not then at the Home. She would not have approved of her husband's conversation with the ladies. She had suffered a serious accident the previous year while traveling from the Home to a hospital nearby. The damage to her, mentally, resulted in migraine headaches and jealousy which made her life, and her husband's, miserable. She and Tad were spending the summer in Vermont. Lincoln missed them.

Harris noted, "When his secretaries and friends visited him at the Soldiers' Home he liked to read aloud from his favorite Shakespeare plays, the tragedies of Hamlet and Macbeth." With the bloody war all around him, he often quoted from Macbeth, "I am in blood stepp'd so far, that should I wade no more, returning were as

tedious as go o'er." This was his time of ordeal, when, as historian William Zolov wrote, "The gaunt man faced the most decisive and critical battles of his life. He was fighting alone, sure of no one and nothing save his own integrity." In his grief he may have thought of his obsession with the "usurper role of Macbeth". Was he, as was being said, fighting the south, or fighting the "Founding Fathers"? Richard Hafstadter has written about Lincoln's "quest for immortality."

Critics then, and now, point out that Lincoln could have ended the war with a word. Consensus was: "Lincoln's Party prolonged the war for the money." One of the foremost Civil War historians, J. G. Randall wrote, "If one word or phrase were selected to account for the war, the word would not be slavery, or economic grievance, or state's rights or diverse civilization. It would be such a word as fanaticism."

While Lincoln was at the Home in July 1864, General Lee detached his Second Corps, some 15,000 men under General Jubal Early, to move up the Shenandoah toward Washington. Lincoln suggested to Grant that he might let the Virginia campaign wait and come up to oppose the army approaching Washington. Grant sent two divisions of his Sixth Corps to Fort Stevens. Lincoln met the troops under General Horatio Wright as they disembarked at the Seventh Street wharves. Lincoln wanted immediate action: "Faster. You don't want to be late to get Early." After a day of light attacks on Fort Stevens, next morning the rebels were on their way south. They took with them shoes and blankets from Maryland towns, payment "in lieu of pillage". Lincoln berated the seven Union generals for not following Early's army. Lincoln said scornfully, "For fear they might come across the Rebels and catch some of them." According to the Washington Star, the attack on Fort Stevens was not the only military action in the area that day. July 12, 1864. "Twenty-five or thirty of Colonel Mosby's raiders attacked a picnic near Falls Church, danced with the

girls, ate all the ice cream and rode away."

David Donald stated that more has been written about Abraham Lincoln than any other American, and that long after all Lincoln did has been forgotten, what he wrote will be remembered. Critics rate Lincoln's prose with the blank verse of Shakespeare. Both are masters of the use of metaphor. Biographer William Oates noted a Lincoln example. To point to the lack of evidence in an early court case, he concluded, "has it not got down as thin as the homeopathic soup that was made by boiling the shadow of a pigeon that starved to death." Oates wrote about the false image of Lincoln, the "country lawyer". In fact, by the 1850's he had become a "lawyer's lawyer". Most of his cases were in the Illinois Supreme Court, for railroads and industries. His fees of \$5,000, high for the time, made him wealthy.

Richard Hofstadter noted Lincoln's political determination to rule. "No one else in modern history could exercise so much power and feel so slightly the personal corruption that goes with it." One recalls John Hay's nickname for the President was "The Tycoon". Hay noted in his diary in August, 1864, "The Tycoon is in fine whack. He is managing the war, the draft, foreign relations and planning a reconstruction of the Union, all at once. I never knew with what tyrannous authority he rules the Cabinet; he decides there is no cavil."

Why President Lincoln chose to spend his summers at the Soldiers' Home is uncertain. Matthew Pinsky suggests it was Mary Lincoln's decision. "She had social ambitions and almost certainly viewed the summer residence as a status symbol befitting the nation's first family." It was for her and the President an ill-fated choice. What Lincoln did at the Soldiers' Home is basically conjecture. Even in Harris's book, Lincoln's Last Months, major events are

Continued on page 9

LINCOLN AT SOLDIERS' HOME

Continued from page 8

separate, if only two miles away. Except for Colonel Goode's history of the Home, most of what has been written about the Home is hearsay. Most of what we "knew" has been shown, by researchers, to be folklore bordering on hoax.

In "Ghost Riders", an historic account of partisan warfare in Appalachia, novelist Sharon McCrumb borrows from century-old Lincoln folklore that may have begun with Lincoln's early biographer, his law partner William Herndon. In McCrumb's story, the wife of the wartime Governor of North Carolina says, "He was a Lincoln in name only. Everybody knows his mother was a servant girl for the Enlow family, and all of them are tall and gawky-looking, just as Mr. Lincoln seems in the picture of him. They say the Hanks girl was married off to Tom Lincoln, when she was in the family way. Odd the Enlows have produced a president and cannot claim him."

Virginia Woolf said, "A biography is considered complete if it merely accounts for six or seven selves, whereas a person may have as many thousand." Lincoln's Soldiers' Home self is yet to be explored.

SUMMER

By Leslea Pidgeon (W)

**Skipping pebbles on the lake,
wasn't life, oh so great!**

**It was such a simple joy-just
being a country boy-wading in
the cool waters of the lake-with
your jeans rolled-up your legs,
hoping not to get caught by others-
playing in the waters-being
careful for your sake-the summer
was so great-lazy time-in the
cool shade of the trees, waiting
for the time, for school again to
take.**

Good Intelligence is the Key

By Ole Salt

Our Marine passengers departed at sunset 18 November 1943, although we should have known that they were on their way to TARAWA the rumors about their departure were rampant....The most ridiculous of the rumors about their departure was that they were cast adrift because the three officers refused to eat in the Officers Mess and continued to eat with their men....Another good one was, our Skipper got mad at the Marine Captain because he wouldn't tell the Skipper what his orders were....One's mind does funny things when one has been at sea for a few months....

Actually we didn't have long to spread rumors because at 0100, 20 November we went to General Quarters....A condition in which we would remain for over three days....Sometime prior to sunrise, we began to shell enemy installations on Betio....We were lobbing sixteen inch antipersonnel projectiles with fuses set to detonate the rounds six feet above the ground....The battle planners were sure that by H-hour all, or most of the enemy would be dead....This assumption was one of many that proved the old adage; GOOD intelligence is essential....The intelligence furnished the battle planners was incomplete and in some cases incorrect....this was doubly damning because this was to be the first true amphibious beach assault....There had been other engagements where troops were landed on the beach and proceeded to battle inland but this was a whole other thing....H-hour arrived and we continued to shell Betio....We didn't understand why we contain-used, but we were soon to learn....Our Skipper believed in keeping the crew informed....He got the word to us that the Marines were experiencing stiff fighting on the beach and needed the extra support from the off-shore shelling....We fired 98% of our antipersonnel ammo, much more than we

expected....After all, Betio was a small island, three miles long and about eight hundred YARDS wide....With all the steel that had been dropped on and shot at it, it should have sunk....As the Marines fought their way onto the beach and established a firm hold they found that the enemy had retreated to bunkers--BUNKERS--reinforced concrete that their mortar and field canon rounds were just bouncing off....Although the battle planners knew that the enemy had fortifications, they did not know how they were constructed....The Japanese senior officer had bragged that no force could take Betio....He was almost right....Bombing of Betio from the air started prior to the shelling from sea and continued until after H-hour....The surface of Betio was reduced to rubble....The trees were leveled but not the concrete pill boxes and bunkers....They were still intact and manned by the enemy troops that had been bombed and shelled for hours....The Marines called for armor-piercing rounds directed at the bunkers....I don't remember how many rounds of "AP" were fired but I remember we had to stop firing our main battery because the barrel liners were protruding about two inches out of the muzzles of most of the big guns....We sent 18,600 men against Betio with its reefs, pill boxes and bunkers....We lost over 1000 killed and over 2000 wounded....The Japanese defended with over 4,500 troops and finished with 17 fighting men alive....Although the carnage on both sides was overwhelming, the lessons learned saved many lives in future amphibious actions....

Yes we learned....We learned that we must know where we are going, how difficult it is going to be getting there and what is going to be there when we arrive....In other words GOOD Intelligence is paramount....

GULF COAST NEWS

Movies and Audio Books to Go!

AFRH-G Wellness and Leisure Service provides a movie and audio book check-out in the Recreation Office. Resident Joe O'Carroll (pictured) does an outstanding job running the program. He maintains a constantly growing collection of 2500 VHS tapes, 250 audio books and 375 DVD's. The movies and books are available for free check-out to residents. The collection has grown due to the large number of donations from residents and people in the community. Recreation staff also purchases special requested movies and audio books. A special thanks is extended to resident volunteer, Mr. O'Carroll for the great pride he takes in maintaining the movies and the check-out cards. A Job Well Done!



Happy
First
Birthday
AFRH
Communicator

Even Rain Can't Stop a Great Cookout

By Lee Corban (G)

On Sunday, July 18th a Patio Cookout was held on the Gulfport campus. After a brief shower at starting time the event went great. Student volunteers from Keesler Air Force Base helped with setting up, serving food and drinks, and cleaning up. We would like to mention a special thanks to resident volunteers Nick Di Campli and Gene Brunner for an outstanding job during the whole event.



Under the trees. Gulfport residents Jerri Eberle, Rosie Rosenburgh (far-side), Richard Richey and Pete Lea enjoy time outside.



No Rain Stopping these Guys! Don Hernich, Odell Williams, William Talley and Joe Webb make the most out of this picnic.

METRO NEWS

Let The Good Times Roll: Las Vegas Night in Washington

By Laura R. Fogarty (W)

The 8th annual Casino Night came on Friday, July 16 with over 325 people in attendance. The anticipation began about 6:30 p.m. in the Scott dining hall lobby as residents lined up to get their door prize ticket and \$50,000.00 to play the tables with. During this time the Scott Dining Hall was being transformed into a mini Las Vegas. As the crowd filled the casino area, tables filled up fast and they began a two hour event of chance, luck and of course skill. Some residents felt lucky and stayed put at one table the entire time as others wandered from black jack table to roulette to poker and then to the money wheel trying to win big. There was a game for everyone. Even if you didn't like to gamble there was plenty to eat and drink and door prizes were given out every 15 minutes or so.

This event couldn't be possible without the support of several supporters and volunteers. This year's sponsors were NCOA, AAFES, AFSA, Airmen's Memorial Foundation, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Bank Of America, AUSA and the Warrant Officers Association. As always NCOA provided the first place prize. The grand prize is round trip excursion to a destination of the winner's choice (not to exceed \$1200.00). AAFES dollar Gift Cards, Clock Radios and Walkman CD Players were given out as door prizes. This year NCOA also wanted to give something extra to those residents who are unable to attend the event. There was a Special Prize Drawing.—One independent living resident and One KHC resident received a \$250.00 AAFES dollar Gift Card. The results are noted here of all winners.

The volunteers came from the Boss



There were several blackjack tables set up which prove to be very popular with residents throughout the night.

program at Ft. Myer, the Lord Fairfax chapter of the Warrant Officers Association, Marines from Henderson hall and from the Army Management School nearby. Residents who helped make this a success were Robert Cooper, Ruby Bloomer, Jesse James, Bill Jenterra and Joseph Williams. Leisure and Wellness staff all pitched in on this event. Thank you to Melodie Menke, Tonya Brown, Howard (Keith) Turner, Jerry Carter and to our civilian volunteers Mr & Mrs Cashman. It was a great time had by all.



Roulette wheels kept the dice spinning from the moment the tables opened until they closed late in the evening.



Lucky dice! Residents line the craps table hoping the luck of the dice were on their side.

Winners profile:

Mr. Robert Bales was this year's winner. He served 40 years of federal service. He was in the Navy for 22 years and in civil service for 18 years. Mr. Bales came to the home 18 months ago from Austell, GA. He has traveled the world and continues to travel but he says it's always nice to come "home". He has 3 grown sons residing in South Carolina, Indiana and in Florida. He is very happy with his winnings and plans to visit his sons throughout the year with his extra money.



Ms. Jeannie Beasley played the tables throughout this annual event while other residents backed her play.

AFRH-G SPECIAL EVENTS

Red, White & Blue Waves in Gulfport on the Fourth of July!



Obil Webb enjoys of plenty of sunshine, food, drink and entertainment during the 4th of July celebration on the coast.



With a beautiful view of the coast line resident Nick Di Campli, Jerry McCreight, and Jim Grubb celebrate the 4th of July in style.



Dahlia Boone, Mary Allen and Ann Whittaker take advantage of great weather and conversation with each other during the 4th of July celebration.



A sea of red, white and blue is worn by residents, staff and guest during the afternoon celebration.

AFRH-W SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual July 4th Resident Celebration: An AFRH-W Tradition

By Jerry Carter (W)

Despite the thunderstorm/rain throughout the day over 224 residents celebrated the 4th of July 2004 here at AFRH-W in style.

On Sunday, July 4, 2004 inclement weather could not keep residents from celebrating at the Resident Celebration event. Due to severe thunderstorms this event was moved inside the Dining Hall. The residents were treated to live music by Ray Anderson and Bernice Goldstein. The pair put on a good show and the residents enjoyed listening to music throughout the event.

Residents and guests were given all sorts of things from flags, buttons and patriotic leis.

There was plenty to eat and drink. Ice cream, root beer floats, cake, watermelon, snacks and beer was available throughout the event. Everyone had a good time with eating, drinking and dancing to celebrate this special time of the year.

This event was a joint partnership between the Leisure and Wellness Division and AAFES. The Lounge Manager Gordon Scott and his wife Tonya provided the rootbeer floats and the 30 door prizes came from the retail store thanks to Manager Reggie Brockett. No event goes well without volunteer support. Additional thanks goes out to the following people for volunteering to help make this event a success. Joe Williams, Jessie James, Jim Fogarty, Ruby Bloomer, Jim Menke, Melodie Menke, Sarah Menke, Ray Smith, Charlie Bronson, Hugh Rowe and Samuel Richardson. They all did an exceptional job. Lastly, thank you to all the residents who attended.



AFRH-W lady residents wave the red, white and blue throughout the evening.



AFRH-W men residents enjoyed an afternoon and evening of food and entertainment.



Above: Ronald Miller waves the red, white and blue during the final hours of the 4th of July Celebration in the Scott Dining Hall.

Below: Residents around this table were full of laughter, food and drink but most of all full on fun.



Above: Laura Fogarty gives away a door prize to this lucky resident. Below: Bill Murray is in his party mode with a big smile and soda.



COMMUNITY

Monthly “Management-Resident” Activities Continue to Build

By Laura R. Fogarty (W)

During the month of July the game of choice was YOLF, a combination of putt putt golf and croquet. This game isn't just for kids. On July 14 several residents came out and competed with staff and had some fun. Jackie Haslam was the winner and won herself \$20.00 to spend in AAFES.

The early morning breeze behind the Scott Dining hall made it a delight to enjoy this activity outdoor before the heat of the day set in. Each month more and more residents come out to participate in these social activities. All residents and employees are encouraged participate. The August activity will be fishing which will be held on August 11, 2004.



What a job! Jerry Carter from the Leisure and Wellness Division kept Jackie Haslam's score during this event.



Fore or Four? Chuck Dickerson gets into the swing of things while participating in the Yolf tournament.

Residents Work the Diamond

By Jerry Carter (W)

The "Over the Hill Gang" as they call themselves are out and playing on a weekly basis on the AFRH baseball diamond every Wednesday. This group of energized residents played their first softball game of the season on Thursday, July 8, 2004 with the Latter Day Saints Youth group. Due to the number of players on both teams, we mixed the teams up and played the game. Everyone had fun under the sunny sky; good weather for a ball game. The residents really enjoyed the chance to interact with the Youth group and a lot of verbal interaction took place between both teams.

The Leisure and Wellness Division would like to thank resident Hank Williams for volunteering to umpire the game and doing a excellent job. Also the Latter Day Saints Youth group for participating in the softball game.



Above: Terry Sawyer, Alfred Paul, Jerry Carter, Louie Aiello and David Wright make up the AFRH-W Softball Team.

Below: Terry Sawyer gets ready to blast a homerun during a recent softball game.



Library Notes

By Edward M. Underwood, Sr. (W)

Six weeks after celebrating the opening of the new Computer Lab in conjunction with SeniorNet, first computer class is currently being taught in the new computer lab. The "Computer Basic class" is a six-week course designed to introduce you to computers and give you a sufficient hands-on experience so that they will feel confident to expand your knowledge by experimenting and practicing on your own. The initial computer class is being taught by resident James Fitzpatrick with residents John Green, and Don Barnard assisting. The following residents are attending:

The next computer class will begin Saturday, August 7, 2004 if you are interested stop by the Leisure and Wellness office and pick-up a registration form and other information about the various SeniorNet computer classes.

ON THE WIRE

Communiqué from Dining Services Staff – Washington

By Leon Barwick (W)

Over the past year Dining Services has upgraded the current menu at Scott. Many positives from the residents indicate the acceptance of the new "Bill Of Fare". Through joint ventures with our prime vendor, and Dining Services commitment to success we have presented new products and services. We expanded our menu offerings for each meal. The salad bar selection has been increased and we have added a soup station. Daily selections of cold sandwich fixings are available on the salad bar. We have provided more nutritious no sugar added items such as an array of pastries, flavored yogurts, and lactose free milk. We will soon be offering a new selection of chilled beverages. The fast food line is augmented with a daily selection of heart healthy grilled chicken fillet. By the end of July this year the menu at LaGarde will be upgraded to parallel the Scott menu.

Dining Services is the first place Residents look to satisfy their palate and for companionship. Daily, our staff of dining professionals prepares three meals a day for over 1050 Residents. Birthday Celebration Dinners are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month featuring Prime Rib of Beef, a special seafood entrée, dinner wine and birthday cake. We also offer outdoor patio cookouts, twice each month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Additionally, a 22 hour snack area is open to all Residents. This area contains light snacks for those who require between meal nutrition or may have missed the normal meal hours. The area also serves as a socialization spot to converse over a cup of coffee or other beverages. There is something for everyone in our Dining Facilities.

Dining Services is comprised of dedicated and loyal employees that represent the spirit of joy. Their selfless acts of professionalism provided the spirit. We have a staff of longevity employees, and

recent graduates pursuing the degree of Bachelor of Science.

Scott Dining Hall Staff



Front row: Geneva Nance, Leon Barwick and Rosemary Brown.

Back row: Robert Young, Deborah Banks, Zavon Felton and Vivian Brooks.

LaGarde Dining Hall Staff



Front row: Vickie Brown

Back row: Joyce Sandidge, Donna Cromwell, Charlotte Bell and Lewis Chance.

Heat in Baghdad Reaches 116 Degrees

By Joseph Scharrer (W)

You remember how it was in World War II in North Africa? How steamy it was in 'Nam? No comparison.

So, what's this build-up about? Our young brothers and sisters in arms are subjected to these temperatures and humidity (or lack of), we are not. We can help them by sending them what they desperately need: Air Conditioners. Those of you who are computer literate to some degree can see for themselves what the story is. Just go to www.operationac.com and look at dear old Saddam basking in front of an air conditioner these people have sent – not for him – to Iraq for the benefit of the troops there.

A few weeks ago, I spoke with a young trooper who was treated at WRAMC for shrapnel wounds in his legs. He told me the worst was the dry heat and no let-up at night. Put that together with the heavy gear, the flak jacket, the ammo, and you have pure misery.

You and I, all of us, can help to some degree. The organization that works wonders is a joint venture between the people at the above web site and Home Depot; the result is a night's rest that lets then grunts sleep in relative comfort.

I have already sent a few bucks to them at the address below. How about you? For the price of one less six-pack (beer or soda, whatever) you can help. Please do; it could be your son or grandson who is blessing your name for having helped him to a good night's sleep. And the best is, it is the grunts that are getting the ACs, not the REMFs, not the staffs, and not the GS-16s.

Help a Soldier or Marine by sending checks or money orders made out to: Operation AC, Inc.

Operation AC, Inc.
560 Peoples Place
Newark, DE. 19702

By all means, check out that web site; maybe it will give you some good ideas on how to help; with money or letters to guys who wouldn't get mail if you didn't write them.

LOOKING UP

WHAT A GREAT PLACE!



New residents at AFRH-W? They were living in the hedges by the water tower because Admissions would not assign them a room. They have since moved elsewhere, whereabouts unknown.

By Mike Longwell (W)



Who says you have to go to a big lake to catch nice size fish. This large mouth bass measured 20 inches long and was caught at AFRH-W fishing pond.

Special Events Hosted By AFRH-Washington



"Rumors A Farce" brings the Scott Theater to life during a recent performance.



Above and below: Youth and adults volunteers had a great time with residents throughout a fun filled day of activities.



Puppies to Go! Residents enjoy Pet Therapy Day as much as the special pets.



A MUST READ

Return of the “Razorback”

By Master Chief Asher (G)

On June 18th, 2004, the USS Razorback (SS-394) made a stop in New Orleans on its final trek from Istanbul, Turkey to North Little Rock, Arkansas, its final resting place as a museum. The Razorback first put to sea in 1944 and spent 26 years there for the United States Navy. She earned battle stars in WWII and Vietnam, was present at the Tokyo Bay surrender, evacuated Chiang Kai Shek from mainland China, participated as a submerged test vessel for nuclear weapons tests at Christmas Island in 1962, as well as untold Cold War exploits. Then to the Turkish Navy for 32 more years, operating in and out of the Eastern Mediterranean.

New Orleans was the first stop in fresh water after leaving the salty seas of the world's oceans. It will make its way up the Mississippi and Arkansas Rivers to North Little Rock. Here at the campus in Gulfport, we had 14 of our 21 resident Submariners attend the ceremony commemorating the achievements of the Razorback and its reprieve from the scrapheap. The second part of the Razorbacks journey to becoming a museum is about to begin. The polishing, chipping and painting, and conversion to museum access will be time consuming, but, worth it to the veterans of the submarine service. Some see it as a labor of love to preserve history.



Left: Razorback banners are parade up and down the dock area.

Right: The USS Razorback was greeted in New Orleans by several different generations of Americans including a AFRH-G resident.



DID YOU KNOW?

The French-German Arms Race Part II

By Ludwig Olson (W)

In early 1887, a French Army deserter smuggled a French Lebel rifle and some 8 mm cartridges into Germany. Bismarck, the German Chancellor, ordered that this new French rifle and its ammunition be tested. The tests revealed that the Lebel and its cartridge were superior to their German counterparts, the Model 71/84 Mauser repeating rifle and 11 mm black powder cartridge.

In an immediate crash project to develop a German smallbore repeating rifle and smokeless-powder cartridge, the Rifle Testing Commission at Spandau Arsenal tried various calibers and chose 7.9 mm (.311"). The bolt mechanism of the new repeater was basically similar to that of the Model 71/84 Mauser, except that dual-opposed locking lugs were at the front of the action as in the Lebel. Spandau Arsenal foreman, Louis Schlegelmilch, was largely responsible for selecting this locking system and various other details of the bolt and receiver.

An outstanding feature of the new German rifle was its Mannlicher box magazine developed by Ferdinand Ritter von Mannlicher, a famous Austrian arms designer. It was loaded from the top with a five-round en bloc sheet steel clip, also called a loading packet. After the last round was fed from the magazine, the empty clip fell through a hole in the magazine bottom.

This system gave a great firepower advantage. It was much faster and easier loading than inserting cartridges singly into a tubular magazine as required in the Lebel and Model 71/84 Mauser. Perhaps the most unusual feature of this new rifle was its tubular steel handguard screwed on the receiver ring and extending almost to the muzzle. An air space between handguard and barrel gave an insulating effect to help protect the user from barrel heat. The handguard also protected the barrel and served as a support for its forward end. Major Armand Mieg of Bavaria was the inventor of that device.

The 7.9 mm cartridge for this rifle had a brass case of so-called rimless type. It was not actually rimless, but the rim did not project sideward from the case body. That aided compactness and prevented rim overlap and feeding problems.

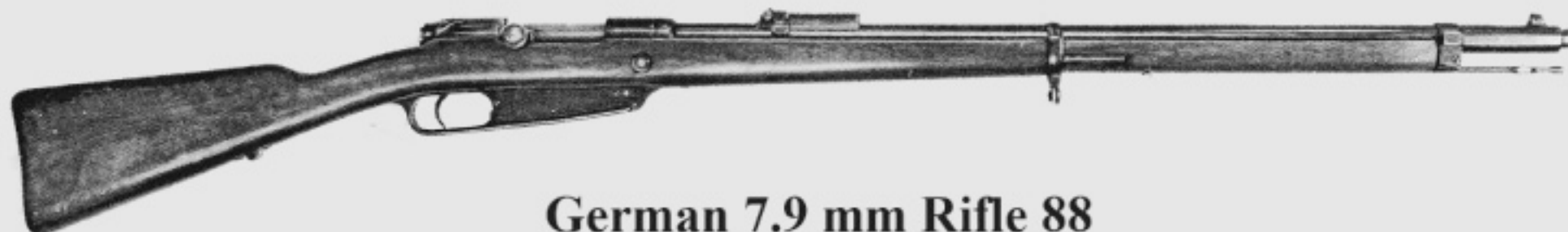
Producing a suitable smokeless powder for the new cartridge proved to be a problem. Max von Duttchenhofer, who founded the Rottweil Powder Factory, produced a cellulose-type smokeless powder, but it gave high gas pressure and was not very uniform in ballistic performance. Chemists in the Spandau Powder Factory made a copy of the nitrocellulose powder used in the French 8 mm cartridge, and that solved the problem.

The long, round-nose bullet of the 7.9 mm cartridge had a cupro-nickel clad

soft steel jacket and lead-alloy core. Ballistic performance was considerably better than that of black powder rounds. Muzzle velocity of the 227-grain bullet fired from a 74 cm (29.13") barrel was 620 meter seconds (2,034 feet per second), which compared favorably with the French Model 1886 8 mm cartridge.

On November 20, 1888, Kaiser Wilhelm II decreed that the new rifle and 7.9 mm cartridge be adopted by Germany. They were designated Rifle 88 and Cartridge 88, respectively. Unofficially, the rifle was called Commission Model 88, Mauser 88, Mannlicher 88, or Mauser-Mannlicher. It was produced in large quantity by German Government arsenals at Spandau, Danzig, Erfurt, and Amberg, and by the commercial firms Ludwig Loewe & Co., Berlin, and Austrian Arms Co., Steyr, Austria. Carbine versions were made by Erfurt Arsenal, and the firms V. C. Schilling and C. G. Haenel, Suhl, Germany.

Although the Model 88 rifle suffered a number of birth and growth pains, it won many friends because of its smooth-working bolt action. It was officially replaced by the Mauser Rifle 98, but was continued in service through World War I chiefly as a secondary German rifle. In 1918, a large number of Model 88 rifles were given to Turkey, an ally of Germany during World War I.



German 7.9 mm Rifle 88

FOLLOW UP

Frankenmuth 4H Visit to AFRH-W

Hello!

I just wanted send a huge THANK YOU your way, for taking the time and inviting us into your home. Words cannot express the love we felt for Chuck and Mike, and all the veterans, when we left. Our few four hours that we spent with all of you, is truly priceless to all of us, especially the youth. We have a 16 year old young man in our project, that frankly didn't want to come. When Jacob left and got into our bus, he had tears coming down his face, and didn't want to leave. He now can't wait to return again.

We have been interviewing veterans for about a year now, for the Veterans History Project, and every interview has been wonderful. The kids bond with the veterans, and find themselves a lifelong friend while learning. We all felt the same after leaving the home. We have made lifelong friends.

I am hoping in some way, our youth can keep in touch with you. I don't know if you have a long distance 'pen pal' program we can connect with you, or on e-mail. Or you might have an idea that would let our project keep in touch with you. We are planning to travel back in the spring of 2006, and would be honored if we could come and visit again.

I will send out some great pictures that the kids took. Thank you again Sheila for taking the time with our group.

I look forward in talking with you soon.

Jennifer Putnam
Frankenmuth 4H Pacesetter
US Flag Project Leader
Frankenmuth, Michigan

Signs of Improvement

Continued from page 5

trols. Recently, we contracted with Johnson Controls to take a close look at our temperature controls to make sure any specific problems there are corrected. As several of you know, sometimes the thermostat in your room just doesn't seem to work right. Johnson Controls will focus on correcting specific problem areas so our temperature controls and air flows work to maximize the comfort of our Residents.

We also are taking aggressive action to repair long standing problems with various piping systems in the Scott building. The hot water piping has been patched in several places over the years and has constant leaks. Rather than continue patching, Campus Ops has starting replacing large sections of piping so that leaks will stop occurring in those areas. Due to the lack of working isolation valves, we had to drain the water down from the plumbing pipe stacks in Scott during the night of 15 July 04. We performed the repairs successfully and then proceeded to refill the piping system. During that refill, air became trapped in the pipes and began to build pressure as the pipes continued to fill. That air pressure eventually caused pipe ruptures in a few rooms that were on the higher decks. The water from those rooms leaked down onto lower rooms causing additional damage, this was unfortunate and we at AFRH-W apologize for harm caused by that water. We are reviewing and updating our procedures related to system shutdowns and restarts to ensure that in the future, we will minimize disruptions to our Residents and reduce any potential damage to property.

Questions have also arisen about the work on the Scale Gate Road bridge. The DC Public Works Department is running that bridge rebuilding project. It is planned for completion in October of 2004 at which time it will re-open. When the Scale Gate Road bridge re-opens, employees and Residents will be able to depart and re-

enter AFRH via the Scale Gate Road from Monday thru Friday during the hours of 0600-0830 and 1500-1630.

Starting 19 July, a new Golf Course grounds maintenance contractor will take over the maintenance of the golf course grounds. The company is Billy Casper Golf and they will provide similar services to those we have now. Billy Casper Golf maintains several other courses in the DC and Maryland area and are well versed and experienced in this area. We think that overall course maintenance and upkeep will improve now that we have a professional firm who specializes in this area supporting us here at AFRH-W.

That about wraps it up for now, hope everyone gets out and enjoys the remaining time of summer as much as they can!

A FROG ON A LOG

by William Tobin, (W)

Look! Look there! At that bump on the log.

It must be a frog, it can't be a dog. Dogs have fur, and bark when they "Hark."

And they don't see too well when day turns to dark.

It could be a cat, but cats also have fur.

And most of the time they meow, or they purr.

So it must be a frog, or maybe a toad.

Nah! Toads always hide at the side of the road.

That leaves it a frog, and when all's said and done.

The proof is right there. It said "Jugarum."

(Ed. Note: "Bill" Tobin was the Navy Seal featured in the April '04 issue of this paper).

THEN & NOW

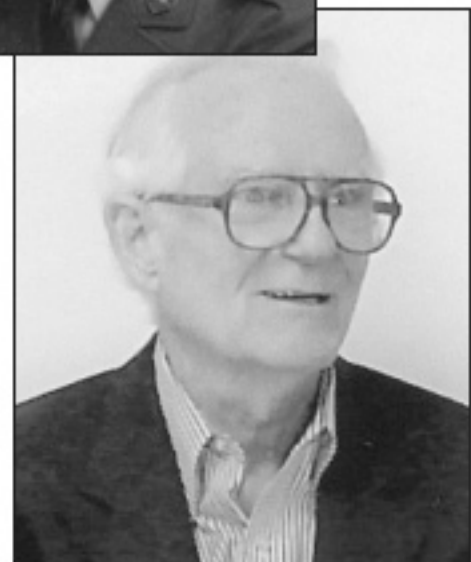
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Donald Barnard, USA



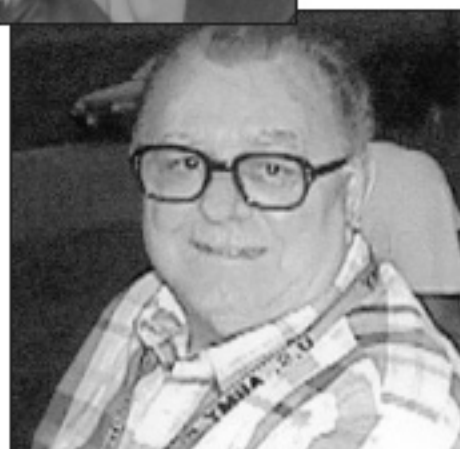
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Catherine Bowie, USA



Harry Copare, USA



Barbara Diehl, USA



Ray Colvard, USN



Jo Colvard, USA



Lee Corkill, USA



Fred Fayerweather, USAF



Wilfred McCarty, USA



Jewell Miggins, USA



THEN & NOW

Grace Muller, USA



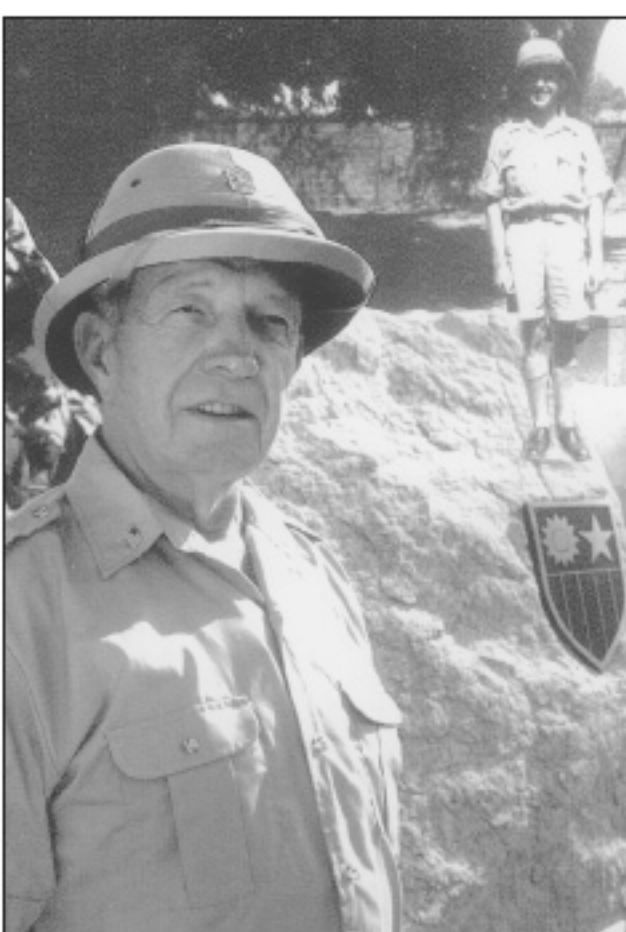
Lloyd Marcus, USAF



Anna Munzer, USA



Charles Rose, USA



Marion Sardiello, USA



Mimi Rivkin, USA



*AFRH-G residents will be featured in August 2004. Please submit your photos to Master Chief Asher.

Norman Godfrey,



Naomi Plummer, USA



Cecilia Radditz, USA



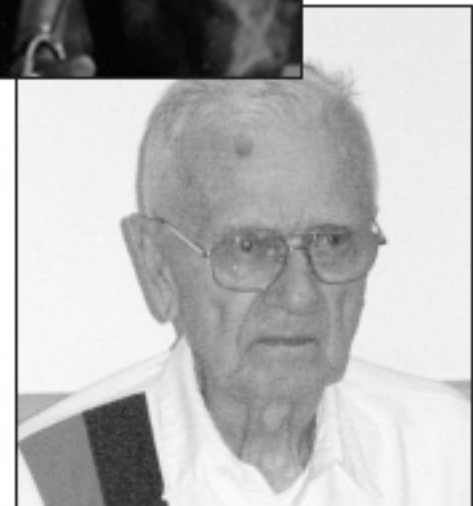
Harold Schultz, USAF



Howard Sweet, USA



William Marrow, USA & USAF



Louis Bodisch Brings Two Golden Eagles to a Place of Honor in Gulfport



Left:
Perched
above Louis
Bodisch is
one of the
restored
eagles.
Right: Louis
Bodisch
looks over
the eagles
during the
restoration
process.



Below: Lewis Olive examines the one of the shields before the restoration process begins.
Right: Repair process on the eagle gets underway.
Bottom right: This golden eagles is almost completed and ready to be mounted.

